Questions for reading Frawley, *Linguistic Semantics*

After studying this book, you should be able to:

1. Describe the **actual** relation between the terms **verb** and **noun**
   a. the way linguists use them and
   b. the ‘notional’ (i.e, “Traditional” or “Miss Fidditch”) definitions
      (which are, respectively,
      i. “A **verb** is the name of an action, being, or state of being”
      ii. “A **noun** is the name of a person, place, or thing”).
   For extra credit, describe formally the logical difference between, or write a program to distinguish between, these two intensions. (§§1-2)

2. Describe **succinctly** the meanings and ramifications of the **Entity subcategories** – specificity, boundedness, animacy, gender, kinship, social status, physical structure. Provide examples of each from English or some other language you know (of). (§ 3)

3. Do the same thing with the Event category terms **Act(ive)**, **Stat(e/ive)**, **Caus(e/ative)**, **Inchoative**, **Result(ative)**, and with the ramifications of **Motion** and **Transfer**. Note the many Event frames that function as elements in one or another metaphor. (§4)

4. Do the same thing with the Modification areal terms and their ramifications – **color**, **value**, **age**, **human propensity**, **physical properties**, **quantity**. For extra credit compare these categories to Aristotle’s ‘predicaments’ and ‘predicables’. (§10)

For extra credit:

Compare Frawley with §§11-12 in Foley, *Anthropological Linguistics*.

 Does this discussion use the same set of categories as Frawley?
 *Almost* the same?
 What kinds of differences are there?
 To what might they be attributed?

Read inside Frawley at *Linguistic Semantics*